



The Federal Redistribution 2003
South Australia



**Comment number 4
On Public Objections**

Liberal Party of Australia (SA Division)

7 pages



**LIBERAL PARTY
OF AUSTRALIA
(SA DIVISION)**

104 Greenhill Road
Unley 5061
South Australia

GPO Box 20
Adelaide SA 5001

TEL 08 8373 1955

FAX 08 8271 1317

EMAIL secretariat@sa.liberal.org.au

WEB www.sa.liberal.org.au

17 October 2003

Redistribution Committee for South Australia
9th Floor
AMP Building
1 King William Street
ADELAIDE SA 5000

Dear Sirs,

This covering note accompanies four (4) copies of the Liberal Party comments regarding the public objections submitted to the Redistribution Committee for South Australia.

Yours sincerely


Graham Jaeschke
State Director

LIBERAL PARTY OF AUSTRALIA (SA DIVISION)

COMMENTS ON OBJECTIONS

AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY (Objection No. 10)

While supporting many of the directions of the proposed boundaries, the ALP have submitted suggestions that would fundamentally change the boundaries proposed by the Commission.

The ALP Objections are a transparent bid to have the Commission improve the Labor vote in three marginal seats.

Labor submit that with a hypothetical 50% 2PP state-wide result, a fair outcome would be a minimum of 5 seats to the ALP and 5 seats to the Liberal Party. They admit that this has probably been effected by this redistribution. In fact, with a 50% result, it is more likely that Labor would win 6 seats out of 11 under the proposed redistribution.

Labor's objection is based on the contention that the ALP might attract 44% 2PP of the state-wide vote and win only 1 of 11 seats. The ALP therefore ask for increases in their vote in three marginals to somehow correct this perceived inequity.

The necessary corollary of one major party receiving less than 44% of the two-party preferred vote is that the other party receives more than 56% of the 2PP.

However, the ALP fails to mention that it has been a very rare occasion when either Party has achieved 56% of the state-wide 2PP. In fact, in the last 22 Federal elections in South Australia, the Liberal Party has only achieved this result twice. Over the whole 22 elections, the average Labor state-wide 2PP vote has been 49.68%. (source: Attachment A)

The result of acceding to this submission of the ALP would not merely advantage Labor if its share of the 2PP fell to 44% but to secure a permanent significant advantage when (as is usual) their vote is higher.

The Commission should reject that ALP's suggestions on this issue alone.

Adelaide

The ALP, in a cynical attempt, have suggested changes to the Federal Division of Adelaide which would make the seat notionally Labor. Having failed to win this very marginal seat since 1993, the Labor Party are requesting the Commission do their work for them. In our original submission, we suggested that inner city suburbs to the east of Adelaide could be moved into Adelaide under community of interest grounds. The Labor Party suggestion to swap areas between Sturt and Adelaide is more about voting preference than community of interest. Adelaide is an inner city electorate and suburbs in the electorate including those proposed, can be classified as such.

Hindmarsh

The ALP's suggestion for Hindmarsh is as obvious as their suggestions for Adelaide. The changes would increase the Labor vote in this already marginal seat. On our estimates, the Liberal margin would reduce to 50.25%. Taking into account that Labor have suggested that Adelaide becomes notionally Labor, that the seat of Solomon could be abolished, and the proposed boundaries for Hinkler have improved the Coalition vote, adoption of the suggestions for Hindmarsh would make this seat the most winnable sat for Labor in Australia.

The Liberal Party contends that the coastal areas proposed to be added to Hindmarsh have more in common with the neighbouring areas of Grange and Henley Beach. Again, Labor tries to hide its opportunism with community of interest arguments but ignore other community of interest arguments for the inclusion of the proposed areas.

Wakefield

Not satisfied with making Adelaide notionally Labor, and Hindmarsh the most marginal Coalition seat in Australia, the ALP suggests that Wakefield should be further strengthened for Labor.

The Liberal Party understands the difficulty of drawing boundaries and there are many roads, rivers and railway lines in the vicinity of the Wakefield/Port Adelaide boundary. However, we contend that the boundaries used by the Commission are entirely appropriate and measure up from a community of interest point of view. Again, the ALP seeks to disguise the fact that their suggestions will dramatically increase the Labor vote. The suburbs of Salisbury Plain, Salisbury Park and Brahma Lodge have a higher Liberal vote than the suburbs of Paralowie and Burton. This is the reason why they have made these suggestions and it is for this reason that these suggestions should be rejected.

Both parties and the Parliamentary Library have agreed that this seat based on the previous Federal election results, is a marginal Labor seat. The Commission should not accept Labor's bid to make this seat safer by over 1 percent for the Labor Party.

The Liberal Party strenuously opposes the suggestions submitted by the ALP. In summary, the ALP objections to the Draft Boundaries are a transparently self-serving attempt by Labor to improve their vote dramatically in three marginal seats.

We make no comment on Labor's other suggestions or from other persons who have submitted objections. Our failure to comment should not be seen as agreement to their arguments.

(Attachment A)

Department of the
Parliamentary Library



INFORMATION AND RESEARCH SERVICES

Research Paper
No. 9 2001-02

Federal Election Results 1949-2001

House of Representatives Elections 1949–2001
Two Party Preferred Vote

(Per cent)

Election		NSW	VIC	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Aust
1949	ALP	50.8	49.7	42.7	50.6	47.0	46.5	n.a.	n.a.	49.0
	LP/NP	49.2	50.3	57.3	49.4	53.0	53.5	n.a.	n.a.	51.0
1951	ALP	50.5	50.7	43.5	51.8	45.6	47.4	n.a.	n.a.	49.3
	LP/NP	49.5	49.3	56.5	48.2	54.4	52.6	n.a.	n.a.	50.7
1954	ALP	53.0	50.7	44.8	52.7	48.1	50.0	n.a.	n.a.	50.7
	LP/NP	47.0	49.3	55.2	47.3	51.9	50.0	n.a.	n.a.	49.3
1955	ALP	49.5	40.8	43.9	49.0	43.5	47.5	n.a.	n.a.	45.8
	LP/NP	50.5	59.2	56.1	51.0	56.5	52.5	n.a.	n.a.	54.2
1958	ALP	49.8	42.3	41.4	49.8	40.8	49.8	n.a.	n.a.	45.9
	LP/NP	50.2	57.7	58.6	50.2	59.2	50.2	n.a.	n.a.	54.1
1961	ALP	54.8	44.5	50.7	54.2	43.5	56.0	n.a.	n.a.	50.5
	LP/NP	45.2	55.5	49.3	45.8	56.5	44.0	n.a.	n.a.	49.5
1963	ALP	49.3	42.5	48.1	53.3	43.8	54.5	n.a.	n.a.	47.4
	LP/NP	50.7	57.5	51.9	46.7	56.2	45.5	n.a.	n.a.	52.6
1966	ALP	43.9	39.3	44.3	42.4	45.7	53.9	n.a.	55.8	43.1
	LP/NP	56.1	60.7	55.7	57.6	54.3	46.1	n.a.	44.2	56.9
1969	ALP	51.6	44.9	49.9	54.2	52.6	56.1	40.8	71.6	50.2
	LP/NP	48.4	55.1	50.1	45.8	47.4	43.9	59.2	28.4	49.8
1972	ALP	55.4	50.4	49.5	52.7	48.3	60.5	45.5	68.0	52.7
	LP/NP	44.6	49.6	50.5	47.3	51.7	39.5	54.5	32.0	47.3
1974	ALP	54.9	50.6	45.4	52.5	48.5	55.4	47.3	59.7	51.7
	LP/NP	45.1	49.4	54.6	47.5	51.5	44.6	52.7	40.3	48.3
1975	ALP	46.8	43.8	39.8	44.9	41.2	44.1	45.1	49.3	44.3
	LP/NP	53.2	56.2	60.2	55.1	58.8	55.9	54.9	50.7	55.7
1977	ALP	47.6	44.5	42.0	48.7	39.9	43.8	47.5	54.3	45.4
	LP/NP	52.4	55.5	58.0	51.3	60.1	56.2	52.5	45.7	54.6
1980	ALP	50.4	50.7	46.9	49.6	46.7	47.1	48.8	58.6	49.6
	LP/NP	49.6	49.3	53.1	50.4	53.3	52.9	51.2	41.4	50.4
1983(a)	ALP	54.1	54.5	49.5	52.3	55.0	43.6	51.9	65.5	53.2
	LP/NP	45.9	45.5	50.5	47.7	45.0	56.4	48.1	34.5	46.8
1984(a)	ALP	52.9	53.1	47.7	51.7	50.9	46.6	48.6	62.0	51.8
	LP/NP	47.1	46.9	52.3	48.3	49.1	53.4	51.4	38.0	48.2
1987(a)	ALP	50.3	52.3	49.3	50.2	50.9	46.9	52.2	63.2	50.8
	LP/NP	49.7	47.7	50.7	49.8	49.1	53.1	47.8	36.8	49.2

Federal Election Results 1949–2001

House of Representatives Elections 1949–2001
Two Party Preferred Vote (continued)

(Per cent)

Election		NSW	VIC	Qld	SA	WA	Tas	NT	ACT	Aust
1990(a)	ALP	52.1	47.5	50.2	49.5	47.1	47.9	55.0	58.5	49.9
	LP/NP	47.9	52.5	49.8	50.5	52.9	52.1	45.0	41.5	50.1
1993(a)	ALP	54.4	51.8	48.4	47.3	46.0	54.6	55.3	61.2	51.4
	LP/NP	45.6	48.2	51.6	52.7	54.0	45.4	44.7	38.8	48.6
1996(a)	ALP	47.4	50.3	39.8	42.7	44.0	51.6	49.6	55.5	46.4
	LP/NP	52.6	49.7	60.2	57.3	56.0	48.4	50.4	44.5	53.6
1998(a)	ALP	51.5	53.5	46.9	46.9	49.5	57.3	50.6	62.4	51.0
	LP/NP	48.5	46.5	53.1	53.1	50.5	42.7	49.4	37.6	49.0
2001(a)	ALP	48.3	52.1	45.1	45.9	48.4	57.7	52.5	61.1	49.0
	LP/NP	51.7	47.9	54.9	54.1	51.6	42.3	47.5	38.9	51.0

n.a. not available

(a) Actual result based on full distribution of preferences.